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The Other Press.

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HOME?

Coquitlam's first permanent homeless shelter set to open near David Lam campus

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WHO WE ARE

The Other Press has been Douglas College’s student newspaper since 1976. Since 1978 we have been an autonomous publication, independent of the student union. We are a registered society under the Society Act of British Columbia, governed by an eight-person board of directors appointed by and from our staff. Our head office is located in the New Westminster campus.

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The Other Press.

The Douglas College
student newspaper since 1978

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Letter from the Editor: Sniff, snivel, sob

I cry all the time. Sometimes it’s totally reasonable and justified—like the time someone dropped a balance beam on my foot. I mean, that really hurt. Sometimes, the reason for my waterworks is more obscure—like the time I full-on bawled because the barista at Starbucks told me I had to pick a different latte because they were out of vanilla syrup. I cry at sad movies, happy movies, and Google commercials. I cry to my family, my friends, and (perhaps more embarrassingly) to total strangers. Consequently, I feel like I’ve spent a fairly significant portion of my life apologizing for the moisture level of my eyeballs.

When I think about it, this is a really stupid thing to do. No one gets mad at people for smiling, so why is there such a stigma attached to another natural emotional function like crying?

Similarly, people always tell me that I shouldn’t cry because it makes me seem unprofessional and people won’t respect me. But, by taking this advice to heart and repressing my instincts, I think I’m stunting my personality. Besides, how many people do we encounter that show destructive emotions like aggression or anger in public? Why are these traits valued, and tears looked down on?

So, if you’re like me, and the stress of the impending semester is building, I encourage you to let yourself cry whenever you feel like it. It feels good, it lubricates your eyes, and it shows that you are a tender, caring person capable of emotion (and not some sort of cold, mean robot). If I see you, I’ll be sure to pass you a tissue.

Sharon Miki

Survivors of fatal accident sue Mi Joo Tour and Travel

Driver suspected to have exceeded weekly commercial driving limit

By Anne Marie Abraham,
Contributor

Young-Sen Kang, the guardian of two Tacoma-based exchange students who survived a bus crash in Oregon on December 30, is looking to sue the Coquiltam-based Mi Joo Tour & Travel, deeming the agency responsible for the injuries sustained by the teenage South Korean boys living with him.

A Canadian couple that survived the crash and is suffering from injuries due to the accident is also filing a lawsuit against Mi Joo Tour and Travel Ltd. They allege that the driver did not get enough sleep and that the bus was mechanically defective with inadequate windshield wipers and headlights and inappropriate tires for the weather conditions.

Requests for comment from Mi Joo were responded with referral to the agency's lawyers.

Six international students studying at an ESL school in downtown Vancouver were also present on the bus. Two from the group of friends sustained terrible injuries. Despite the traumatic experience, they said that they want to continue

their studies. After experiencing the bus crash through the guardrail at Interstate 84 and falling down a 200-foot embankment, the students were wary about taking another bus to return to Vancouver.

When the manager at Legacy Ford Lincoln, Roger Barnes, heard of their predicament, he provided SUVs with experienced drivers to take the survivors back to Vancouver.

"They know we had an accident so they drive safely," Seokwon Kang, one of the international students, said.

Nine passengers were killed and 38 were injured in the accident. The surviving passengers alleged that the driver of the bus, Haeng Kyu Hwang, had driven over 92 hours in eight days. The Deputy Director of the BC Ministry's Commercial Vehicle Safety Enforcement branch, Perry Dennis, said that drivers are not to exceed 70 hours of driving within a week. An audit showed that the company did not have reports of pre-trip inspections for their six buses and that there were no records of monitoring the hourly service of the drivers.

The passengers also claimed that despite several signs warning of dangerous road conditions, Hwang continued to drive too fast on the icy roads. The lawyer representing the bus company, Mark Scheer, said that there is a history of accidents



Oregon police investigate what could have caused the fatal accident | Photo courtesy of Oregon State Police/AP

in the area where the bus crashed. The strip of highway is known as Deadman Pass.

"You exhibited a careless or reckless disregard for the safety of yourself, your passengers, and the general public," the US Department of

Transportation said to Hwang.

Mi Joo has been banned from driving in the US and is suspended from operating buses in Canada. The suspension will be lifted if the company can prove that they can meet the safety requirements outlined

in the Motor Vehicle Act.

"If we are satisfied that they have plans in place and they are safe to go back into operation, they will. And then we will continue to monitor them very closely," Dennis reassured.

Douglas enrollment on a steady incline

Winter enrollment up five per cent from last year

By Dylan Hackett,
News Editor

The enrollment levels for the winter semester are up by five per cent from 2012, according to data released from the registrar's office. This semester there are over 10,000 domestic students and between 1,100 to 1,200 international students studying at Douglas College. Although enrollment levels are down from the fall semester, Dave Taylor, Marketing and Communications Director assured that this is a usual trend.

"We usually see a very small drop from fall semester into winter semester because some programs end in the winter and also because a lot of people like starting their school year in September, and then you have a bit of attrition in the process," explained Taylor. "Some people start their program and don't

Nursing program maintaining its very high application and enrollment level.

"All of our health sciences [programs] are very popular including animal health technology," said Taylor. "We have a lot of people studying in humanities and social sciences. Psychology, sociology, and

Douglas' recent "Do" ad campaign featuring student stories, career paths, and area of studies have been conspicuous throughout SkyTrain cars and stations. The Marketing and Communications office feels that the ads have been successful, with lots of anecdotal feedback being positive.

"We're finding more and more people are learning about Douglas College. We've been a sleeping giant in the community for a long time because we have a huge scope of courses people can take but we found through research that there was a disconnect," said Taylor. "People didn't realize that Douglas College had as many offerings as we do. That's one of the things we've been trying to get out. We have a vast variety of opportunities for students and the quality of education is extremely high."

Taylor also explained the benefits of a better-educated populace. Canada is the most educated country in the world with 50 per cent of the population having a post-secondary degree.

“We have a lot of people studying in humanities and social sciences. Psychology, sociology, and criminology are very popular.”

finish it. They take a break or take one or two courses and go to work."

There haven't been major shifts in what programs and areas of study are most popular at Douglas, with the Bachelor of

criminology are very popular. A lot of our programs are full but we try to add extra seating for students because this is probably record enrollment for this time of year ever. We're still looking at continuing growth."

"We've been working on [the ads] throughout the fall. We really wanted to focus on our own students and their successes, challenges, and what they're working on," explained Taylor. "That's been the focus."

World Recap: weekly geopolitical events (Jan. 14-21, 2013)

By **Keating Smith**,
Staff Writer

Africa: (Algeria) Eleven al-Qaeda affiliated group members are dead along with 30 hostages after the Islamic extremists stormed a gas refinery in southern Algeria last week. The group, alleged to be from Libya, took control of the facility in retaliation to the military intervention France has staged in neighboring Mali. The refinery, which was stormed by the Algerian military resulted in several European and Japanese foreign workers being killed during the firefight with several other workers unaccounted for.

North America: (Canada) Quebec's provincial government is assertively pushing ahead with a euthanasia bill coined as the "dying with dignity" bill which the federal government has described as unconstitutional, violating criminal law in the country. A 400-page report written by a legal team for the provincial government argues against any form of criminal code violations in suicide assistance which is primarily intended to assist terminally ill patients end their lives due to extraordinary pain and suffering. This is not the first time the federal government has dealt with suicide assistance in Canada and a similar case is currently being appealed in BC through the province's Supreme Court.

Latin & South America: (Cuba) Cuba's Ministry of Health has confirmed an outbreak of cholera in Havana, the first outbreak in the country since the 1950s. The outbreak is thought to have originated in the poorer area of Central Havana, where doctors have been going door-to-door searching for early symptoms of the acute intestinal disease. Cholera is transmitted through water and food that has been in contact with the fecal matter of an infected person. Cholera is known to cause severe diarrhea or fatal dehydration of the body.

Asia- Central & South: (Pakistan) The Pakistani Supreme Court has ordered the arrest of Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf who is accused of being connected to a corrupt scandal while he was the federal minister of water and power.

The scandal, which involved Ashraf and a dozen other bureaucrats in his ministry, involves the contract to purchase several 'rented' power plants in the country by the government. Ashraf "Violated the principle of transparency, therefore, [his] involvement in getting financial benefits out of the same by indulging in corruption and corrupt practices cannot be overruled," the Supreme Court said in a press release.

Asia- Pacific: (Taiwan) Tens of thousands of protestors descended into central Taipei last week to stage a demonstration against the incumbent government's slow economic growth. Taiwan's president Ma Ying-jeou has vetoed any public demands for reform as political relations with Beijing are of top political priority to him and his government.

Europe: (Germany) An estimated 700 tonnes of Germany's gold reserves will be sent to Frankfurt by 2020 from both Paris and the New York Federal Reserve. Next to the US, Germany holds the second largest gold reserves in the world and historically, Germany's central bank, *Bundesbank*, has kept the majority of their reserves abroad in fear of a Soviet invasion or for trading purposes in times of economic turmoil. Internal skepticism comes from Germany's Court of Auditors as to how well managed and accounted the stockpiles of the countries gold are being managed outside of the country.

Middle East: (Israel/Jordan) The World Bank released a report earlier this month elaborating on the socioeconomic and environmental benefits of building a projected \$15 billion pipeline that would connect the Red and Dead Seas. The Dead Sea is drying up due to the Jordan River and its tributaries being diverted into surrounding countries for agricultural and electric production at approximately one meter per year. Environmentalists criticize the project, citing the pipeline installation will disrupt the surrounding ecosystems and in the case of a pipeline rupture exceptionally dense salt water would contaminate the land.



In Amenas gas field in the Sahara desert in Algeria | Photo courtesy of REUTERS/Belmokhtar Brigade



Prime Minister Raja Pervez Ashraf (right) | Photo courtesy of www.thehindu.com

Wales field school early bird deadline looms

Instructor urges students to sign up by January 25 to reduce program fee

By Dylan Hackett,
News Editor

Prospective students of the 2013 Wales field school are encouraged to apply for the Wales Field School by this Friday in order to shave off \$100 from their program fee—a figure ranging from \$4,025-\$4,600 depending on enrollment levels. The Wales field school, which runs out of the University of Wales, Trinity Saint David in Carmarthen, is usually the most popular of the offerings from the international office and is running for the fifth year. The final deadline for application is March 1.

“Students should sign up for the 2013 Wales Field School because they can get nine to 12 credits in nine weeks in Europe. It’s awesome. The teachers are amazing, the location spectacular, and they are going to make friends that last their whole lives,” said field school

instructor Elizabeth Bachinsky.

The field school runs through the summer semester at intersession length. The first three weeks are spent at the New Westminster campus studying themes in literature with Brenna Gray, introduction to writing poetry with Elizabeth Bachinsky, and philosophy of art with Darcy Cutler. Students also have the option of taking a Welsh social history class with Trinity Saint David instructor Conway Davies, worth three credits at no extra charge.

“We try to frontload the courses here at Douglas College so we get most of the classroom work done here in BC. When we go to Wales we do a lot of excursions. We will do a lot of our teaching in art galleries, in stately homes, and places we visit,” explained Bachinsky.

With airfare and tuition, the program is expected to cost over \$6,500, a steep price for many students but one that can be lessened by applying for a student loan extension or applying for a number of international studies scholarships, awards, and bursaries available. The 2013 International Studies Award worth \$500 has the same March

1 deadline application as the field school application.

After coursework is finished, students in the field school are taken on a visit to London, where they fly home or carry on their travels across Europe.

“We spend three days at the end of the program in London. We go to Buckingham Palace, we go to the Globe Theatre to see a Shakespeare play, we go to the West End and see a show, and all kinds of walking tours all included,” said Bachinsky.

“Everyone is really welcoming and friendly and they expressed a lot of hospitality, especially when you first arrive. We had a great time hanging out with the students that were there even though there weren’t as many Welsh students but there were definitely a lot of friendships made,” said Kiera Floor, 2012 field school alumni.



Wales | Photo courtesy of www.douglas.bc.ca

‘No regrets’: Douglas alumni and billionaire

Frank Giustra answers questions from keen student audience

By Dylan Hackett,
News Editor

Last Tuesday evening the Douglas College Business Association hosted Frank Giustra, notable billionaire and Douglas College alumni, to trickle down his advice to a packed auditorium of aspiring business students, scholarship recipients, and special guest admirers. The event, billed as a Douglas Dialogue, a format that focuses on student engagement with the featured guest allowed for pre-selected questions addressing Giustra’s career path, philosophy, economic, and political reflections and predictions to be addressed in a thorough and sincere manner. Questions were fed through a



Frank Giustra | Photo courtesy of www.ceo.ca

familiar face for Giustra, Rod Midgley, a Douglas economics instructor.

Giustra explained to students, question-by-question, how he came from being a lower-middle income high school student with consistently failing grades to the renowned philanthropist and billionaire

he is today. Although he was willing to share some college-age decisions as advice—such as his rigid saving of his supermarket wages and full-time work schedule, Giustra was also hesitant to consider his route to riches as a blueprint for success.

Giustra humbly told the

room that he was “Not the guy to ask about how to become a billionaire,” an assurance that was in step with his repeated mantra of not taking career advice from old people.

“Don’t take the advice of old people... Lots of people would give me advice and I would just nod. I knew what I wanted,” advised Giustra. “If you don’t already have your vision of what you want to be, go out there and try things. Find something you absolutely love. Life is so short, you have no idea how short it is.”

Giustra began his time at Douglas in the late ‘70s studying music classes. This path of study did not earn him his billionaire status—the world’s only billionaire musician being Bono of U2.

“I did a full semester in music until I realized that I have zero talent. I did another semester in general courses and then I had this epiphany that I wanted to be a rich stockbroker.

A finance diploma seemed like the appropriate course of action,” explained Giustra.

Giustra was adamant in explaining the nuances of being a billionaire, giving caution to the room’s business-hopefuls not to tie wealth to identity. He also explained the onset of diminishing returns into large-scale wealth gain. Coming from a lower-scale economic upbringing, Giustra made clear that money in the hands of working poor and low income folks is spent more than by those with millions and billions of dollars on a sliding scale. He almost humourously challenged the whole of the audience to try to spend a billion dollars.

“Going to your grave with a fat wallet is not a goal. It is absolutely a pointless exercise because it achieves nothing. You as a person will not be happy. My goal is to use my wealth in a way that makes things better for those I leave behind,” said Giustra.

'Sketches' of a bigger picture

Douglas music student Christian Bideau releases first album

By **Angela Espinoza**,
Arts Editor

Committing to a program and following through with that career choice can be a very long, arduous process (completing a program is difficult enough). But if your heart is where your pencil (or pen or laptop) is, it makes surviving the experience worth every moment. One very passionate department at Douglas, the Music department, is consistently full of students who aren't just focusing on their GPA; they're focusing on where they'll go in life soon after. Music graduate Christian Bideau was one of those students in 2012, and now he's released his first album, *Sketches*, tied the knot with another Douglas student, and been interviewed by *The Other Press*!

Before album talk though, Bideau filled us in on how life has been since completing the program:

"I think it's great," Bideau chimes, "it is very well structured and has excellent instructors who are very committed. I had a really good time at Douglas and learned valuable things that helped me develop professionally."

"I got a wonderful teaching job that makes me feel really fortunate. I have been teaching piano with Resound School of Music for the past year, and privately as well. When it comes to performing, I have been doing shows regularly with my band Whiskas (funk/hip-hop) and a few small shows as a soloist playing classical repertory."

"I also got married! My wife, Melissa, was also a music student at Douglas."

In that time, Bideau also took on creating his ambitious 19-track album, *Sketches*. He goes on to explain that while it wasn't the easiest of projects, it made life that much more meaningful.

"Working on my first album was a very enjoyable experience. I composed all the music at night after school and work. It helped me escape from my stressful routine and helped me place myself in a state of mind where creativity is what matters."

"I worked with one piece at a time; once one piece was

finished, I practiced and recorded it and then would move on to the next one. This was significant because I stayed with each piece (creatively and artistically) for a few days, sometimes a week or two, and each one of them became like a story on its own that accompanied me everywhere I went."

The appropriately titled *Sketches* is made up 'miniatures,'

tracks are based on geometric patterns previously laid out on the keyboard. Others are based on the juxtaposition of numeric patterns that determine rhythms and structures. You can also find *reflections* that are inspired by the Canadian winter and its colours.

"The album means a lot to me because it is the beginning of a new persona. After several years of training, I had not

interview with a quick look into his plans for the near and distant future, showing that he doesn't intend on slowing down any time soon:

"My plans for the near future are to perform back in my home country, Mexico, with Melissa during the summer. We have been working hard, polishing the repertoire and trying to book concerts. My further out future

"I worked with one piece at a time.... This was significant because I stayed with each piece (creatively and artistically) for a few days, sometimes a week or two, and each one of them became like a story on its own that accompanied me everywhere I went."

one to two-minute tracks that, although brief, contain intense bursts of artistic energy.

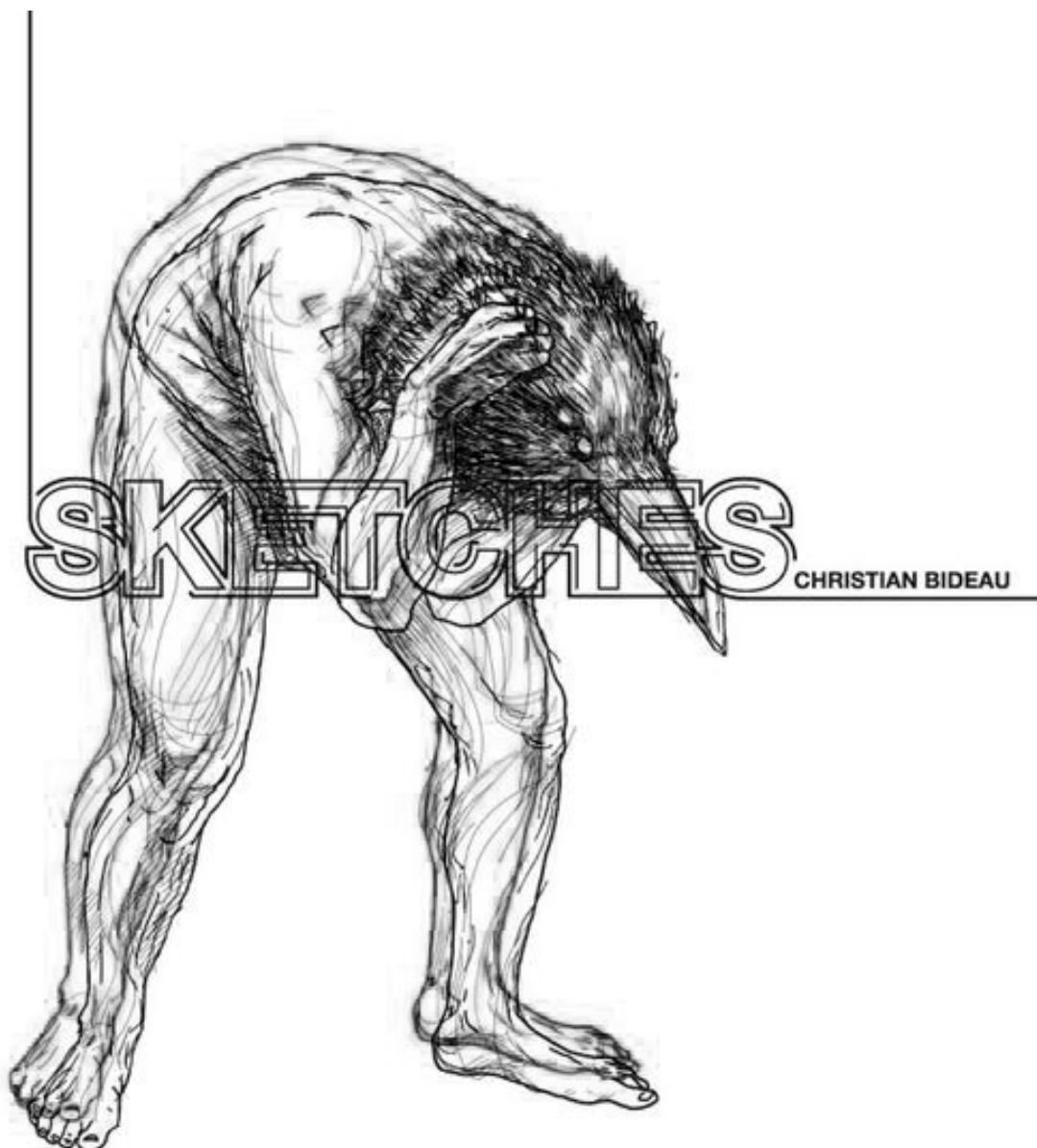
"[*Sketches* combines] my classical music education and my passion for modern styles, such as contemporary jazz and progressive rock. The tracks follow different composition parameters. For instance, some

attempted anything like this because something was holding me back. I suppose I was being too cautious. However, as soon as I started writing the music, it just flowed out of me. It was almost like it was being repressed, and now I feel that I can accomplish a lot more."

Bideau wrapped up the

plans are to start my own music school and to compose larger musical works."

If you're an artistic students or artist of any sort, feel free to contact us at arts@theotherpress.ca. Whether you've got a show coming up or just want to get your name out there, we're eager to from you!



The impossible story of 'The Impossible'

By **Steven Cayer**,
Contributor



In 2004, the coast of South-East Asia was hit with the Indian Ocean earthquake and devastating tsunami, making it one of the biggest natural disasters in history. Spanish director Juan Antonio Bayona took it upon himself to make a film honouring one Spanish family caught in the mayhem, appropriately titled *The Impossible*.

Spending what was to be a wonderful Christmas vacation in Thailand, the family is torn apart, and must struggle to find each other.

Although the film places a white, English-speaking family in the scenario, Bayona did a fantastic job of making the audience feel everything that the "Bennett" family must have gone through physically and emotionally.

The cinematography was definitely one of the high points of the film. The way the camera moves everywhere, below and above the water, gave a very claustrophobic feeling. The cast was also incredible to watch on screen, which makes Naomi Watts' recently announced Oscar nomination even more deserved.

If you see this movie, bring either tissues or a friend you can rub your nose on—you're going to need it.



Ewan McGregor, Oaklee Pendergast and Samuel Joslin in *The Impossible* | Photo courtesy of Summit Entertainment

Arnold's back in 'The Last Stand'

By **Elliot Chan**,
Contributor



If you want a night full of cerebral challenges and dynamic character development, just ignore Arnold Schwarzenegger's major comeback to cinema last week. But if you fancy gunshots, car chases, fist fights, and explosions, then *The Last Stand* will be for you.

The Last Stand offers exactly what you expect it to, including Schwarzenegger's bang-on impression of himself

playing an American sheriff. Yes, there was a novelty to his return, but in the end it leaves the same empty feeling most get when a once popular film star attempts to repeat their all too timely success. Fans will

cuts, fast-paced action sequences, and cringe-worthy comedy. The film's Korean director, Kim Ji-woon, beloved overseas, is clearly taking tepid steps toward the very different world of American

“Fans will ultimately be disappointed in the efforts of the aging Austrian action hero; he is no longer Mr. Universe.”

ultimately be disappointed in the efforts of the aging Austrian action hero; he is no longer Mr. Universe.

For the price of admission, *The Last Stand* offers quick

cinema. But at the very least, his vision is clear and concise, which makes his collaboration with Schwarzenegger worth checking out.



Arnold Schwarzenegger in *The Last Stand* | Photo courtesy of Tony Rivetti SMPSP

Toro y Moi returns with 'Anything in Return'

By **Angela Espinoza**,
Arts Editor



Chazwick Bundick, better known as electronic musician Toro y Moi, released his third album *Anything in Return* on January 22. Overflowing with synth-filled melodies and many a

chillwave moments, *Anything in Return* is anything but disappointing.

The album on the whole creates a very relaxed, café-like mood on every listen. There is the occasional track that presents feelings of unrequited love, but the lyrics fail to take away from the album's otherwise positive sounds.

Partway through its 13 tracks, the music starts to pick

up in a way that eliminates any previous moments of feeling a bit too calm. The beats and in turn the vocals peak, making every track from "Studies" and on feel significantly more alive.

Standout tracks from the album include single "So Many Details," the back-to-back team of "Studies" and "High Living," and my personal favourite, "Cake." "Cake" does differ from the rest of the

album in that it comes off a little less chillwave and a little more R&B, but it nonetheless fits in nicely with the rest of the album, serving as one of several highlights rather than a single outstanding moment.

Anything in Return offers a near-hour of downtime fun for any listener, and at its least, serves as some excellent reading music.



Anything in Return



Where have all the BC arts gone?

By **Angela Espinoza**,
Arts Editor

At a time when art houses are closing left and right, when liquor laws are making independent venues strive to survive, and when tax cuts threaten an end to original local works, it's safe to say that BC's artistic community is in bad shape.

In the last 13 months, we have seen the Vancouver Playhouse Theatre Company, Station Square Cinemas, Hollywood Theatre, and Empire Granville 7 Cinemas all shut down (some torn down completely). Denman Cinemas also closed last year, but it has since been reborn as Collingwood Theatre. Had it not been for Rio Theatre's owner, Corinne Lea's, persistence, we would have also likely lost the Commercial Drive multi-purpose venue. And although still standing, Kitsilano's Ridge Theatre and Burnaby's Dolphin Cinemas are slated to be redeveloped, the SFU-owned W2 Media Cafe is threatened to close, recent changes to BC liquor laws are making the

survival of venues like the Rickshaw shaky at best, and as you've all heard by now, the future of the Waldorf Hotel remains foggy, but we know for certain it is currently no longer a music venue to say the least.

It was also revealed last week that BC's film industry—thriving a few short years ago and now desperately struggling—will receive no tax breaks from the government this

Clark has heard our pleas by now, and it's safe to say this isn't so much a moral decision for our arts community as it is strictly business. The big argument has been that while BC gets enough funding to train up-and-coming filmmakers, without work being offered down here, they're all taking their training to "Ontario and Quebec" (quote every news source in Vancouver).

I'd also like to note that

all of this.

At the end of the day though, there's no one solution to all the problems our artistic community is facing. Both the creators and their creative hosts are slowly being picked apart by constantly changing rules and regulations.

The liquor law change I referred to earlier in this article was a decision by the BC Liquor Control and Licensing Branch,

as prohibiting house parties—dinner parties, birthday parties, or otherwise—because keggers are a thing.

One year ago the LCLB announced that venues with liquor licenses couldn't host film events... the question of "why?" is completely beyond me. Although everybody is happy Rio Theatre's Lea fought back so valiantly to prevent the change, it's unfortunate to say that she would have lost this very public war had the province not figured out how to use the change to their advantage. Thus it becomes clearer as to why Cineplex theatres all suddenly began serving alcohol in their previously announced "VIP Lounges" last year.

My heart is breaking. I feel like I accomplish nothing by signing yet another petition, and with every announcement of another closure I cry harder than the last time. I'm not exaggerating when I say all of this has made the prospect of leaving BC cross my mind more than once, because I feel like I'm going insane watching everything I love about BC wither away, and in some cases, die.

“At the end of the day though, there's no one solution to all the problems our artistic community is facing. Both the creators and their creative hosts are slowly being picked apart by constantly changing rules and regulations.”

year. Announced by Premier Christy Clark, who has of course been taking most of the flack for this decision, a "Save BC Film" petition has been making its way around the Internet in an attempt to... change her mind I suppose. I'm glad people have been retaliating against the news, and I too have signed the petition, but I think Premier

BC's video game industry was also part of this announcement in receiving no government-funded help, but seeing as I've heard absolutely no negative response, I guess we can say we're doing fine in that regard. On that note, in terms of graphics and digital arts, BC is actually doing very well, so at least there's some good news in

more commonly referred to as the LCLB, that prevents BC venues with liquor licenses (the livelihood of most independent venues) from hosting all-ages events. The LCLB's argument is that although the venue may not be serving alcohol to minors, kids will probably find ways to get drunk beforehand. The law makes as much sense

Top five games of 2012

By Adam Tatelman, Contributor

I was largely disappointed with 2012's high-profile game releases. All my most beloved gaming experiences last year went mostly unnoticed, despite being (sometimes literally) interactive works of art. So let's begin 2013 by paying homage to the unadvertised and underfunded, the unloved and the ugly.

5. Dishonored
(released October 9, available on Xbox 360, PS3, and PC)
Despite being a graphical Quasimodo with last-gen textures that pop in at random, Arkane Studios' magnum opus took E3 2012 by storm with its exaggerated character design and Victorian era diesel-punk waterfront setting. Delivering a mixture of tense stealth, brutal combat, and myriad supernatural powers, *Dishonored* sets you loose on Dunwall to choose between dealing justice and taking vengeance. Although its gameplay elements often congeal into an unfocused mess, there's something to be said for any game with the ambition to try and do so much with so little.

4. Silent Hill: Downpour
(released March 13, available on Xbox 360 and PS3)
If you want to know what it's like to do hard drugs without the risk of doing hard time, play Vatra Games' inaugural full title. Though the gothic 'self-inflicted Hell' narrative is a retread of the immensely loved *Silent Hill 2*, the Euclidean symbology of the enemy and environment design and the themes of isolation and inevitability are enough to forge a new identity. Get lost in the free-roaming sections of *Silent Hill*, outpace personifications of ex-con Murphy Pendleton's psychological issues, and solve demented puzzles in the ever-shifting acid trip that is the Otherworld. Though the combat is slapdash, running for your life is kind of the point. If you can accept that you aren't playing as a badass powerhouse, you may find there's fun to be had with mortal terror.

3. Mark of the Ninja
(released September 7, available on Xbox 360 and PC)
Available on Xbox Live Arcade, Klei Entertainment's 2D side-

scroller is a love letter to every stealth title published in the last 15 years. Your wits will have to guide you through the game's challenging, chiaroscuro-shaded assault courses. Use darkness and silent acrobatics to evade patrolling soldiers, employ ninja tools against modern security systems, and terrorize your foes by picking them off one at a time. Lots of replay-ability can be found in the unlockable New Game Plus mode (try 'ghosting' the game in hard mode using Path of Silence, an optional challenge that forbids stealth kills). Though the game is light in the plot department, ask yourself—do you really need an excuse to be a ninja?

2. Spec-Ops: The Line
(released June 26, available on Xbox 360, PS3, and PC)
Some play video games because they want to be action heroes. Yager Studios' post-modern masterpiece reminds us that mass murder is hardly heroic. On the surface, it's a bland cover-based shooter with poor hit detection. But once *Spec-Ops* sends a Delta Force squad into a post-apocalyptic Dubai as part of a disaster relief effort, the game veers sharply from *Modern Warfare* territory and directly towards *Apocalypse Now*. It takes every trope and cliché we've come to expect from a war shooter and plays it like a blood-splattered orchestra, shooting down interventionist foreign policy and escapism through heroic bloodshed by forcing the player to contemplate his own gruesome handiwork.

1. Dust: An Elysian Tail
(released August 15, available on Xbox 360)
When one artist paints all the scenery and animates all the characters in a game, you know they really wanted to publish it. The artistic passion behind Humble Hearts' debut project is apparent in every aspect, from the painterly visuals to the superb voice acting and soundtrack to the epic fantasy tale that subverted my every expectation. The gameplay brilliantly condenses fully fleshed-out RPG elements, *Devil May Cry*-style combat and *Metroid*'s progressive exploration into a singular, unique whole. This XBLA title is a game that loves the medium, shouting out to every gaming legend imaginable and lampooning the inherent



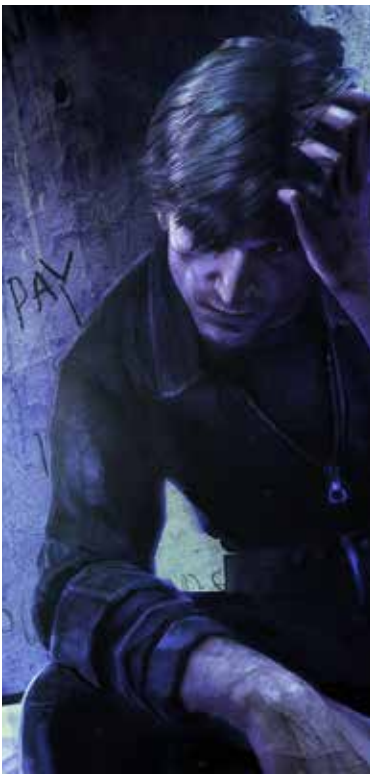
Dust: An Elysian Tail



Spec-Ops: The Line



Mark of the Ninja



Silent Hill: Downpour



Dishonored

Between the Sheets: part-time princess

A peek into the world of pin-up modelling

By **Viv Steele**, Sex Correspondent

Trixie Terror, Port Coquitlam-based pin-up model and burlesque performer, sits across the table from me in her kitchen. She's wearing a Vancouver Canucks tee, her blonde-and-blue hair pulled back in a high ponytail. It's a far cry from the look she sports in her artistic work, where she's usually found wearing corsets, skimpy undies, and a full face of makeup. Trixie is one of many women in a growing trend, a girl next door who's a part-time princess, a multi-tasking diva who can go from zero to sexy in 60 seconds.

Burlesque performances (stripteases culminating in undies and tassled nipple-pasties) are characterized by a keen sense of humour, an over-the-top display of femininity that borders on satire. With multiple burlesque performances weekly and salons dedicated to the sultry, retro pin-up style, Vancouver is becoming known for sassy, gorgeous women decked out in frilly finery.

Performances are elaborate and hilarious, or if you're Trixie Terror, they can be very gory. Trixie performs something

called "gorelesque," which is exactly how it sounds: burlesque dancing with lots of fake blood! Trixie says performing is one of the more empowering things a woman can do for herself.

"When I first started I was very shy about my body," she says. "I was nervous and didn't really like [my body]. Now I'll walk around naked." She speaks very animatedly about how gorelesque and pin-up modelling have improved her confidence, and offers some advice: "I think that every woman should do a sexy photo shoot, for herself. It's fun. It makes you feel beautiful."

As a freelance model and performer, Trixie gets to work for herself and mostly on her own schedule. She tells me that she seeks out photographers on networking websites like ModelMayhem.com, and she often has creative control over her hair, makeup, and wardrobe. She describes pin-up as "cheesecakey," walking the line between sexy and classy, yet landing firmly on the former of the two.

"It's all based on the clothes you wear and the poses you do. My trademark thing is my legs. I always have them prominent, so that's kind of sexy because my legs are over my head or straight out." Trixie works mostly on a TFP basis, which stands for "time-for-prints." It's a way to get exposure and build

a portfolio as a model who's in the early stages of her career.

Pin-up is an attractive trend for a reason. It's characterized by an alternative style, an openness to the different or weird. Most models have a 1950s vibe, updated for the current time with tattoos and piercings. Trixie has 10 tattoos. The industry is also open to more growth: "In the past two years, maybe, [pin-up] has taken off... it's all over the place," says Trixie. "So that means there are a lot of terrible models out there, but then you find people who you would never think would be doing it, but they're doing it and they're brilliant at it."

Trixie relies on support from a strong social media network. She's a self-professed Twitter and Facebook addict, sites which she uses to promote herself and support other women who work either as a hobby or for their livelihood. She posts both pin-up shots and candid shots on her Facebook page and is working towards getting featured in magazines, but for now, Trixie Terror remains a part-time princess. A girl who loves the Vancouver Canucks and the Dallas Cowboys, a woman who spends her days raising her five-year-old son, and a sexy vixen in front of the camera, always game to play in bathtubs full of fake blood and gore.



Trixie Terror | Photo courtesy of Tiffany Ireland Photography

Try something new in 2013

Burnaby Velodrome offers fun, fitness, and thrills

By **Aidan Mouellic**, Contributor

It's the New Year. That time of year when people are more determined to become their ideal selves. It's also that time of year when gyms and fitness centers become jam-packed with like-minded individuals seeking to better themselves in 2013. Making positive changes in your life is great, but it is even greater when you actually maintain your new excellent habits. One of the best ways to do this is to do something enjoyable. If you enjoy what you're doing, you're likely to repeat the task.

If you are looking for a fun and adventurous way to stick to your goal of exercising and want to avoid the clusterfuck of the gym in January, check out the Burnaby Velodrome, a 200-metre indoor bicycle track at the base of Burnaby Mountain on Barnet Road. One of only three indoor

The Burnaby Velodrome is open to people of all ages, with regular riders from the ages of nine to over 60. One notable rider is London Olympic track cycling bronze medalist, Jasmin Glaesser. The 19-year-old SFU student, like any new rider at the time, was intimidated on her

For women and new riders, Glaesser stresses, "Don't be intimidated! Track cycling is tremendously fun at all stages of the game, and whether you settle for the recreational route or choose to pursue it competitively, it is bound to be an experience you won't regret."

Women and young riders are well-represented and whether you are just starting out or training for the next Olympics, you will be welcomed. Take Glaesser's advice: "Get involved and don't hesitate to ask others in the track cycling community to point you in the right direction. We are all excited to help our sport grow locally and within Canada." Infuse some excitement and fun fitness into your life. It's a chance to meet new friends and get fit at the same time.

For more information on how to get started at the Burnaby Velodrome and to book a learn-to-ride session visit www.burnabyvelodrome.ca

“

One of only three indoor velodromes in North America, the wooden oval-shaped track has bankings at a 47-degree angle.

velodromes in North America, the wooden oval-shaped track has bankings at a 47-degree angle. It sounds and looks intimidating, but once you get on a single-speed track bike and start riding, you will be hooked by the thrill, fun, and the physical challenge.

first ride and even slid off the boards at one point (you must maintain speed of over 30 km/h in the bankings or else you will not generate enough G force to stay up on the track), but found out pretty quickly that it wasn't so scary after all.

The Burnaby Velodrome offers exciting learn-to-ride courses that teach track etiquette and bike handling skills. Bike rentals are available onsite for very reasonable prices.

A huge plus at this track is the inclusive environment.

Farewell to ‘The Other Press’

Wherein I cease employment as Life & Style Editor

By **Laurel Borrowman**, Life & Style Editor

“Let’s do the mega-happy ending!”

“Good call!”

-Garth to Wayne, *Wayne’s World 2*

I’ve typed and deleted about 1,500 words so far while

trying to write this final piece as Life & Style Editor for *The Other Press*. I think it’s because I feel like I should be leaving with a big wa-bam, imparting a bunch of life-altering, groundbreaking advice indicative of my wealth of wisdom accumulated over the past 14 months of me mothering this section. Unfortunately, it’s not like that. I haven’t magically become a genius through a series of pivotal a-ha moments. Because life is just that: a series of anticlimactic events. The anticipation will nearly kill you, from beginning to end, but whenever you get there—wherever this illusive “there” is—you’re going to find out that

once you’re there, it’s often not that big of a deal.

Maybe *that’s* my big nugget of wisdom right there.

In fact, I’m leaving because I’ve simply deemed 2013 the year of being sane, which is pretty boring. Last year I said yes to everything, and this year it’s time to pare down, choose quality over quantity. It means cutting down from three to two jobs. *The Other Press* has served me well as a fertile training ground, and now it’s my time to move on and pass the torch onto the lovely Sophie Isbister, in whom I am confident of taking Life & Style to the upper echelons of awesome.

In closing, I leave you with this, the best and only way to summate everything in my most favourite way: a list.

My favourite things about working for *The Other Press*, in no particular order, written in Sarcastic Sans:

- Working for two editors-in-chief who were uncouth, unaccepting, mean, dumb, and not very funny.
- A collective of contributors and co-workers who were uncouth, unaccepting, mean, dumb, and not very funny.
- The entire wall in the office dedicated to displaying the two dozen or so most tasteful vinyl covers from yesteryear.
- A very poorly designed print publication.
- No room for creative control.
- A few dozen people who I will never think about or miss or care to see or work with in any capacity ever again ever. Even if there’s a fire.



Laurel Borrowman, as we’d like to remember her: laughing about something, or at someone. | Photo courtesy of Joel McCarthy

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**SEE FILE SENT
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THANK YOU!

Fuck love: a modern romance

By Jacey Gibb, Assistant Editor

Seven months ago, I took a co-worker's phone number off of the staff schedule and sent her some dumb text message saying that her dry cleaning was ready for pickup. Four months later, while sitting in a vehicle in front of her apartment building, I told her that I loved her.

Whenever a couple decides to take the committal plunge and send their first couple of "I love you"s back and forth, it's usually seen as a milestone. As if to say, "This is it. This is the first checkpoint (out of *many*) along the way towards us having a healthy and lasting relationship."

So why is it that I cannot comfortably use that word?

I'm not some *Dexter*-esque serial killer who's unable to psychologically develop

emotional relationships with anyone around me. And I'm not a serial womanizer either, who after years of one night stands has learned to detach himself from the idea of trust and intimacy. In fact, I like to think that my aversion to the word doesn't come from a deficiency in humanity, but rather that I simply don't agree to the world that comes with it.

Love has acquired so much tertiary baggage for me over the years that I find the word doesn't carry as much meaning as people think it does. Stupendously terrible ballads by Taylor Swift, an assembly line of romantic comedies forcing Jennifer Aniston to somehow remain relevant, and even that upcoming holiday that people love to fucking hate, Valentine's Day. The whole subculture of love is such an over-romanticization that I find it

hard to see how any of it relates to me or the way I feel towards people I care about.

I'm not known in any of my social circles as a guy who's bubbling with emotions, like a pot of feelings that's been left on the stove for too long, unattended. Chalk it up to stereotypical male gender roles, but I'm not a hugely expressive person when it comes to the emotion department. I love my family, my girlfriend, my friends, and my cat, but I don't feel the need to tell them this on a daily basis—except for maybe the latter of those. I care about all of these people and hope that my interactions with them is enough that they don't require constant reassurances on whether I still love them or not.

I guess what I'm getting at is that love is a dated term for an otherwise indescribable feeling. No two relationships will ever



Fuck love! | Photo illustration by Joel McCarthy

be exactly the same, so it's impossible for the same word to accurately encompass what two people are feeling. Love has multiple interpretations for everyone and it always will.

For you, it might mean romantic getaways together and

saying "I love you" anytime one of you leaves the room. To me, love means being able to puke in front of her after a night at the Biltmore before we walk to get chicken nuggets, striding hand in hand.

A world of information

Workshops for international students

By Glauce Fleury, Contributor

As an international student, you want to apply for a work permit, but you don't know if you're eligible. You're stressed with your classes because you don't know how to organize your time. You're applying for a job, but don't know how to write a résumé and a cover letter the way Canadians do. If you have doubts about any of these topics, you can find some answers by attending the ongoing workshops held by the Douglas College International Office.

"The workshops are important to provide information sessions for students so they are able to transition and do well while studying at Douglas College," says Mehrnaz Kobari, one of the International Student Advisors in charge of the workshops. The goal is to answer students' questions and to provide resources and strategies to cope with college life and, ultimately, be successful.

To understand what the students want the workshops to focus on, the International Office held forums to listen to the students. Kobari says these forums are also used to get feedback from students who have attended the sessions. "We go over what we have done previously and how we can improve it in the future," she says. Additionally, the workshops have some topics addressed by the staff — basically, something that

says the International Student Advisor. They are scheduled to take place on Monday mornings and Friday afternoons.

"Each workshop is created with a certain goal in mind, such as improving academic performance, helping with stress management, or assisting international students with renewing or completing necessary permits, so all international students should go," Kobari says. That means they are useful not only to the

Student Advisor.

As you're not required to attend the workshops, you could simply skip them. However, you will be more successful if you go. "I have friends who had troubles with a lot of things because they weren't aware of some procedures," says Rodrigo Meirelles, who studies Commerce & Business Administration in the University Transfer Program. "They would've known if they'd gone to the workshops."

important to remember that we have rights and obligations that we don't know when we arrive," Meirelles says. "That's why the workshops are useful."

AGENDA

Theme: "But, Nobody Told Me..."
When: Friday, January 25, 3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.
Where: Room 3820 (New Westminster)

Theme: Off-Campus Work Permit
When: Monday, January 28, 10:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.
Where: Room 1222 (New Westminster)

Theme: Time Management
When: Friday, February 1, 3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.
Where: Room 3820 (New Westminster)

Theme: Managing Test Anxiety
When: Friday, February 8, 3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.
Where: Room 3820 (New Westminster)

To read the complete agenda and the updated information, visit <http://www.douglas.bc.ca/services/international-education/services-for-success/international-student-workshops.html>.

“Each workshop is created with a certain goal in mind, such as improving academic performance, helping with stress management, or assisting international students with renewing or completing necessary permits...”

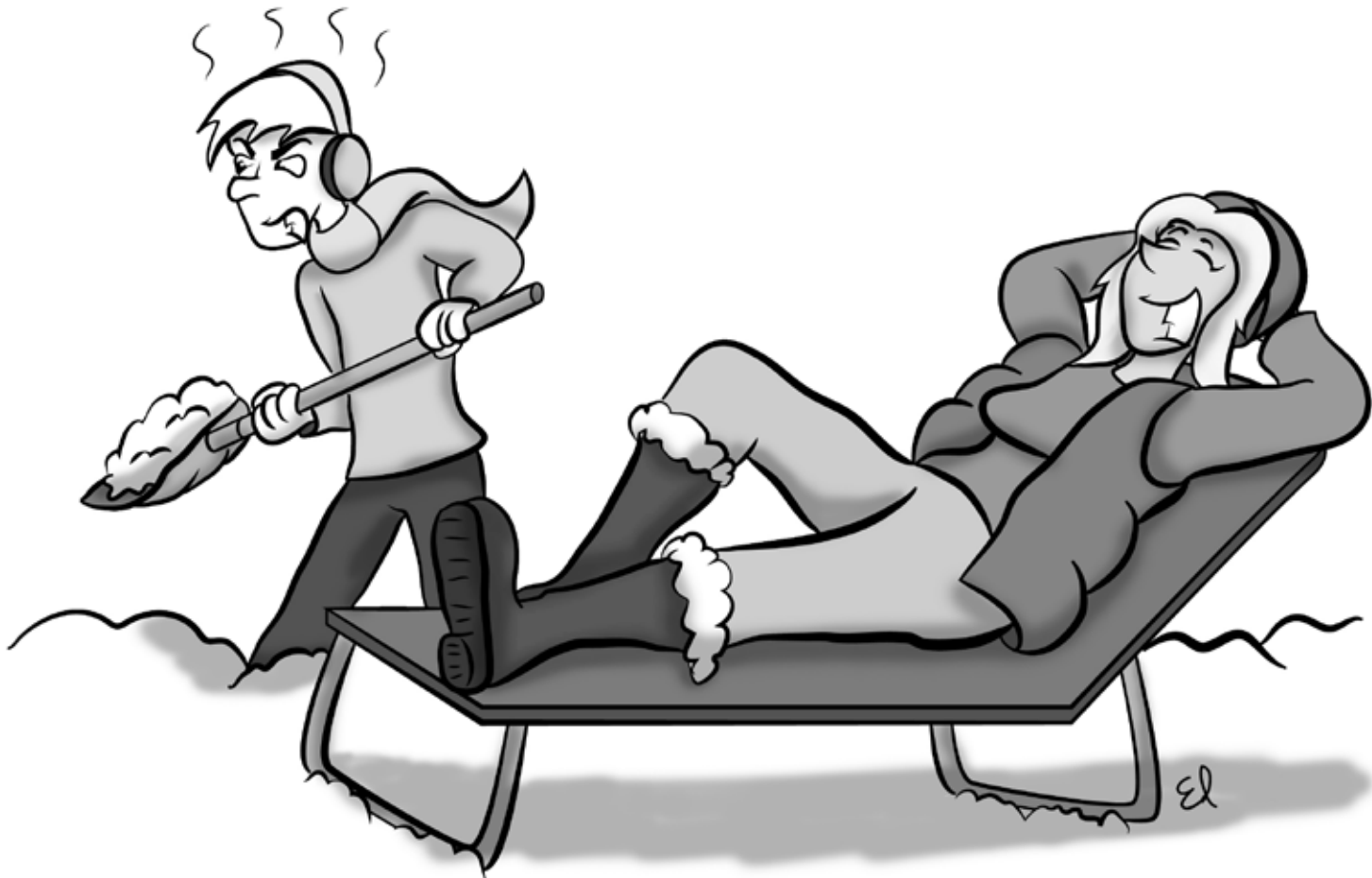
international students need to be aware of and that would be beneficial to them.

If you couldn't go to a workshop in the past because you were in class, don't worry. This semester the sessions are scheduled during the college's non-teaching blocks. "We want to make sure that everyone is able to attend without having to worry about any class conflicts,"

new students, but to returning ones as well.

The Off-Campus Work Permit workshop is the only session students must go to, unless they do not want to apply for their work permit. "There are many regulations by CIC (Citizenship and Immigration Canada) that students need to know in order to qualify for the permit," says the International

The Brazilian student believes most of the workshops address important information that students need to know to be successful in their studies and in their life in Canada. His favourite workshop was about résumé and cover letter writing. "I didn't know how to do it for the Canadian business," he says, explaining that cover letters are not used in Brazil. "It's also



War of the Words: let it snow, or let the complaints flow?

Snowmageddon: just let it happen!

By **Sophie Isbister**, Staff Writer

Another snow day, another battle of the Facebook statuses. Traffic grinds to a halt, the SkyTrain completely shuts down, and people bail walking uphill to the New Westminster campus as if they're training for a new Olympic sport: the fall-on-your-ass-athon. And of course, people post myriad complaints on their social media in a relentless outpouring

usually reserved for the latest Kony-style meme.

But what I find more annoying are the counter-complaints that flood in from folks who have the misfortune of living in snowier corners of our meteorologically-diverse country. Oh, how dare those Vancouverites complain about the snow! They don't know what it's like to dig themselves out of four feet of snow every day and walk uphill both ways to school, etcetera and on and on. As if complaining all over the Internet wasn't bad enough. No, when the strange white stuff begins to fall from the sky, we're subjected to a veritable Russian nesting doll of complainers.

But it's the latter complainers I can't stand. Why can't they just let us Vancouverites have our one week of weather griping and terrible driving? We don't complain about heat waves or months of sun-deprivation. No, we reserve our bad vibes for a very specific situation that only happens once or twice a year. The dreaded snowfall.

And it's fair enough that Vancouverites should complain. After all, our infrastructure can't handle even a little bit of ice. We have open-air rapid transit (which nobody complains about when the weather is nice), tons of hills, and drivers who can't be expected to have snow tires

in the off chance that we'll have a proper winter. "Well," cry out the complainers, "they should be more prepared!" But why?

I'm no economist, but I think that the expense of upgrading our infrastructure to handle a Saskatchewan-style snow-dump is probably more expensive than just shutting down the city for a day. I bet the cost to the economy is much lower than the cost of sinking our whole rapid transit system underground and investing in snowploughs that will only see a few days of road-time every year. There was a reason we sold those useless things in the first place!

No, I'm all for a city that shuts down and complains. Vancouverites are tougher than you'd think. We suffer through our weeks of winter, stubbornly wearing shorts or capris in spite of the plummeting temperatures. We deserve to get a bit down in the dumps when our temperate utopia is shattered, and we don't deserve to be crapped on for it by the rest of you unfortunate Canadians. So, rest of Canada, I'm putting you on notice. No more complaining about our complaining! The next person who gives me shit for whining about winter weather is officially not allowed to visit during our beautiful, balmy summers.

Snowmageddon, my ass

By **Keating Smith**, Staff Writer

Vancouverites and their ability to drive in winter conditions are some of the most intriguing and baffling aspects of Canadian culture. While the challenging topography of the Lower Mainland and the wetness of West Coast snow are significant contributors to the arduous and daunting task of driving here during the colder months, the last time I checked, Vancouver was part of Canada; a country legendary for its extreme climate and elements

in the winter. I do not form any type of bias or judgment against people based on their age, race, gender, or ethnicity when I argue that people have no excuse for not driving safely during the winter in Vancouver.

An aspect of winter driving that drove me insane a few weeks back was how much the local media focused on and bastardized the unsafe conditions of the newly built Port Mann Bridge when it snows. The bridge has been placed in the history books as a feat of engineering when compared to other cable-stay bridges throughout the world, and, for the most part, relieved traffic congestion for hundreds

of thousands of commuters. Ice falling off the overhead rigging and onto vehicles below is unfortunate, but far worse snow and ice related incidents occur on the province's highways at this time of year, such as avalanches. From what I've witnessed, people in the interior don't curse avalanches and slides until they are cleared away by road crews, but rather see them as an inconvenient aspect of winter driving to which they have become accustomed.

Every winter, BCAA and ICBC remind us of the importance of driving with winter tires, along with carrying snow chains through various

mediums. Are we so ignorant and cheap that we slough these messages off, thinking that perhaps this winter we will not see the white stuff on the ground? The degree of how much solid precipitation we receive and how long it lasts may vary from year to year; however, Vancouver receives snow every year. You cannot afford a luxury like snow tires for your car, you say? Then you cannot afford the privilege of driving, in my opinion.

Like your grandfather, I walked and later drove to school through blizzards and in temperatures that froze exposed skin in a matter minutes on a regular basis while growing up

on the Prairies. I can remember a few seldom times when school or work was cancelled because of cold temperatures or snow. To this day, I have never been in an accident because of snowy conditions—knock on wood. The rest of Canada deals with winter conditions far worse than what we in Vancouver are used to and, although it may not be the most pleasurable task, it is a part of our identity as Canadians.

So Vancouver, please: slow down, think before you apply pressure to the accelerator, and if you feel uncomfortable driving in winter conditions, hire a cab, take the bus, or just stay at home.

Why so fascist?

Fascism is more than its reputation suggests

By **Idrian Burgos**,
Contributor

“Fascism” and its more familiar variant, “fascist,” are two of the most overused words in political English today. That is, if you want to shut down another person’s arguments without actually addressing them. “Fascist” has been applied to everyone from liberals to conservatives, and even communists. George Orwell was right when he said, “Fascism has now no meaning except in so far as it signifies ‘something not desirable.’” Given the excess negativity the word has accumulated over the decades since the end of the Second World War, “fascist” has become a word from which persons and organizations are active in distancing themselves. No one in their sane mind wants to be labelled “fascist.”

Yet there are still those who choose to identify with the fascist tag, and it is easy to recognize them. They are the ones regularly called “racist” on and off media. “Skinheads” seemingly on the prowl looking

for non-white people’s heads to bash with steel pipes. “White power enthusiasts” are frequently the number-one suspects in racially motivated attacks. Even with such people, there are still normal people who identify as fascists. Such a thing might shock us, for there appears to be no other reason for such dangerous and foolish identification. But it is still important—and becoming all the more so—to discover the reasons behind identification by ordinary people with fascism. The fascism discussed here is not of the Hitlerian, racial type, but of the statist type associated with Mussolini and claimed by its adherents to be “non-racist.” A capital F would be used here to differentiate this statist Fascism from the more common, small-f “fascism.”

To be Fascist is to be different. A Fascist can claim correctly to differ ideologically from the rest of society, the excuse being that the usually anti-establishment ideologies of socialism, communism, and anarchism have become mostly acceptable; no one considers them to be as heinous as Fascism. Unanimous condemnation of Fascism by all other ideologies—perhaps their sole common trait—helps

to underline this difference. Everything Fascist, from economic solutions to aesthetics, differs from and is soundly rejected by the rest of society—including the ones considered the fringes, thus making Fascists the “fringe of the fringes.” This combination of internal distinctions and external condemnation helps to highlight the Fascist as fully and truly different in society.

To be Fascist is the ultimate rebellion. Given the Fascist’s total difference in society, they constitute the ultimate rebel. They are against current society, and desire to improve it. They are against all other ideologies which have dominated political discussion for a long time, while at the same time adopting some of their ideas. They might be accused of having double standards concerning the latter, but this can be interpreted as a complete rebellion against all conventional moral norms, including those about double standards.

To be Fascist is to be strong and dominant. To be different is to be dominant. Given the strong and varied differences Fascists possess from the rest of politics and society, they are capable of triumphing and imposing their principles over



Photo courtesy of www.therongolianstar.com

their enemies—or to at least promote them fearlessly. This is connected to the Nietzschean concept of the “superman” who follows solely their self-made rules. Bound only by their own principles that are antithetical to wider society, themselves repelled at the concepts held by both establishment society and its “anti-establishment” critics, and confident of the correctness of their convictions since they come from themselves. The Fascist isn’t shy to challenge the social rules they aren’t bound

to, and to influence society in accordance to what they think is right.

The most probable reason for an ordinary person to adopt Fascism as a creed is that it is truly radical, against all ideologies that are acceptable or okay in society and have pushed Fascism to the ultimate margins. Its attraction comes from its fully “anti-” nature and the potential to be reshaped according to individual desire with only key concepts remaining constant.

Annie, don’t get your gun

The necessity of gun regulation

By **Natalie Serafini**,
Opinions Editor

Death rarely evokes a flippant attitude, but it seems gun-related deaths and injuries have become more and more of a blasé matter. We’re inundated with a plethora of stories about shots in the dark and near misses; it’s as if with the prevalence of these violent deaths, the only way to cope is to shrug and move on. President Barack Obama’s recent push to get guns away from dangerous people will hopefully limit the deaths that have become so embedded in the news. Some Americans defend their right to bear arms based on a constitutional amendment, and they clutch that right as tightly as they do their AK-47’s and

RPG’s. For myself, I’m happy if the Wild West becomes less wild.

The Second Amendment right to bear arms presents a compelling argument, but its persuasiveness all depends on interpretation. The Second Amendment states that “A well regulated militia, being

Tom, Dick, and Harry who needs a machine gun in order to feel safe. Not to mention that this amendment was made in a time when weapons were not as efficient or dangerous.

This isn’t to say that banning or regulating guns will cleanse the world of violence. Violent people cause violent

violence, but perhaps with gun regulation there won’t be as many mortalities.

In the last year, a tremendous number of places have become synonymous with tragedy. The names “Aurora” and “Newtown” will most likely remain etched in the minds of those who heard or read news

Over the course of one violent October weekend in Chicago, five people were killed and 24 were wounded because of guns.

What concerns me is that Canada so frequently follows in the US’s footsteps. Perhaps it’s something I’ve become more conscious of as I’ve aged, but it seems both sides have issues which are gradually becoming more and more similar. Obama’s nudge for more gun regulation is a start, but there’s still a long uphill battle in the States against enthusiastic gun owners. There’s also the fact that gunshots have become like white noise. We may not have a debatable right to bear arms, but we still have gun problems in Vancouver. I hope—if Canada continues to traipse after the US—that we don’t adopt a blasé attitude towards guns, deaths, and violent crimes.

“ *There will always be violence, but perhaps with gun regulation there won’t be as many mortalities.* ”

necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.” One of the more significant terms in that constitutional right is the qualification of a “well regulated militia.” A militia is a military force that is organized for the purpose of ensuring the rights of the people. It is *not* every

crimes. On the same day that the gun massacre in Newtown occurred, there was a knifing massacre in Chengping. Yet even with that admission, just comparing the massacre in Newtown to that in Chengping shows an immense difference: in Chengping, 23 people were injured; in Newtown, 28 people died. There will always be

of the massacres. These deaths are cushioned between countless other gun-related deaths. Craig Allen Loughrey, a seven-year-old child who accompanied his father to a gun store, died when a gun went off accidentally. New York firefighters Michael Chiapperini and Tomasz Kaczowka died as a result of sniper, William Spengler.

Where's Waldorf?

Enjoy Vancouver's cultural landmarks before they disappear

By Elliot Chan,
Contributor

Along the edge of East Vancouver, in an austere part of town, are relics of the old city. By day, the stretch of road down Hastings from McLean to Clark contains nothing more than a few auto mechanic shops and an abandoned Canadian Tire. For 65 years, the Waldorf Hotel has been a beacon for the district, but not for much longer. On Sunday January 20, the final lease expired and the new owners, Solterra Group, a real estate developing company, took over.

Since releasing the news earlier this month, the Waldorf has received overwhelming support from Vancouverites who want to preserve their local art and culture hub. Already, over 15,000 signatures were gathered for a petition to save the venue. For the moment, all that was accomplished was a postponement on the demolition until April, while city council determines its heritage values.

So, if you are heading in or out of downtown these next few months, detour down Hastings and check out a unique city landmark before it goes.

But Vancouver is a big city crammed into a small space. Sure, the Waldorf is precious, but there are other notable spots that cater to arts and culture. Uncertain when the next one will be sold for development, we must seize the chance to visit them. I still remember four years ago, attending one of the last concerts at Richard's on Richards, now a Yaletown apartment complex. Heartbreaking.

If you treat music like a religion, then a venue should be your cathedral. In Vancouver, the Commodore Ballroom on Granville is the Canterbury. Roomy, yet intimate, I can't imagine the city without it. Hosting a wide range of popular and independent artists, you'll have a hard time finding a show you don't want to see.

Up Mount Pleasant on Kingsway and Prince Edward is the Biltmore Cabaret. Since the '60s, the public house has been a prominent site for influential music and art. After its renovation in 2007, the venue incorporated weekly and monthly events. Every third



The Waldorf Hotel

Friday of the month, Biltmore hosts the Ice Cream Social, featuring DJs spinning music from the '50s and '60s. And if there is nothing planned for Sunday nights, drop by for Kitty Nights Burlesque.

Out by the banks of False Creek sits the Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Centre. Most notable for the idle indoor locomotive, progressive community programs, and live performances, the events hosted at the Roundhouse are always

culturally relevant and worth checking out.

Way out on the other side of town at Commercial and Broadway, amidst the coffee shops and train tracks, is the Rio Theatre. Built in 1938, it has gone through a metamorphosis turning from a movie theatre into an arts headquarter. It showcases talent in live music, stand up and sketch comedy, burlesque, and independent cinema. Along with new releases, Rio holds screenings of

classic movies on Fridays. It just so happens that *Zoolander* will be playing on January 25th. Two dollars off for those who decide to come in costume.

It is a great disappointment to see the Waldorf being sold, but Vancouver is still home to some of the most diverse entertainment locations in the world. As some heritage sites disappear, others will surely take their place. Let the renaissance begin.

Use your mind and think

It's easy to lose

By Aidan Mouellic,
Contributor

This may seem like a backwards thing to state in a campus newspaper, but not enough students are interested in learning—the act of genuinely making an effort to understand what is being taught. I've only recently begun to fully appreciate how great it is to learn because I was mentally ill for a period of time and was not able to use my brain or time in the way I would have liked. I won't bore you with the details of that period, but now that I'm on the other side, life is much better and brighter. I guess it takes losing your mind to realize how precious it really is.

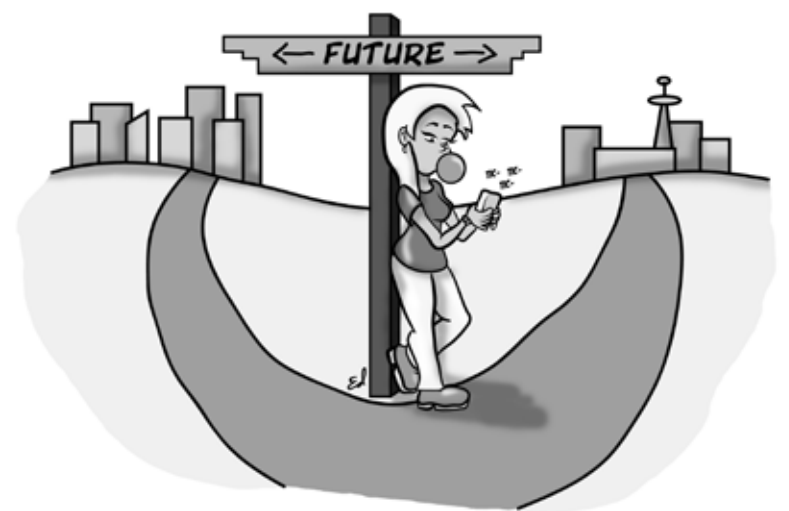
Like our ability to walk, see, and breathe freely, we take our mental health for granted

daily. Our minds are immensely powerful and capable of truly wonderful things—it's a pity then that so many of us underuse them. Our brains need to be exercised and stressed to prevent atrophy. I see little evidence of this in classes I've taken when I hear students repeatedly asking the instructor each week if they need to memorize something for an exam. This makes me want to yell at the student and just tell them to "Learn it!"

I understand that we sometimes have to take courses we don't care much for, but instead of seeing these courses as chores requiring mere memorization of the subject matter, try viewing them as an opportunity to learn something new. College is a time when we students should be focused on learning new skills and developing ourselves. It's something a lot

of us do, but it also appears that an increasing number of students are here merely for the ability to enter a more lucrative career afterwards. Though it is important to take steps to better our future career prospects, we should also do ourselves a favor and try to make the most of our opportunities by taking a genuine interest in the material and trying to understand what we are supposed to be learning.

I want to punch myself in the face for sounding like a patronizing old person, but it seems with the proliferation of technological aids, few people truly think or take pleasure in learning anymore. I fondly remember the years I spent as a Cub Scout, yearning for new badges to add to my sash. A sash full of badges was the ultimate in cool factor; it meant that the wearer had not only been successful, but that they had a vast repertoire of skills.



If I ever had to be stranded somewhere for 127 hours, I would want a sashed out Cub Scout with me.

Learning new things is thrilling. You become more confident, capable, and interesting—three traits that will help you in a multitude of ways. So how about you try putting

down your iPhone, picking up a how-to book, learning Chinese, and going to impress the guys and gals down in Chinatown. Or just make an effort to become interested in your biology class and figure out how a fetus becomes a baby, then pass the course.

Lance-ing the wound

Armstrong confesses to doping on the Oprah Winfrey Network

By Eric Wilkins,
Staff Writer

It was inevitable. Everyone had already figured out that Lance Armstrong had doped during his cycling career and it was just a matter of when the man himself was going to confirm it. His choice medium for the revelation? The Oprah Winfrey Network last Thursday and Friday.

The man who once held seven Tour de France titles finally admitted to taking drugs in his quest to achieve glory. Within the first two minutes of the interview, through a series of “yes or no” questions, Lance Armstrong put to rest any doubts people had remaining about his guilt. Despite being prepared to hear his confession, I was stunned at the suddenness of it all. In the blink of an eye, it was over. His whole career was one big sham. Armstrong was a cheat.

It seemed to be a blatantly honest interview. Armstrong had several visible difficulties when talking about the effect his doping had on his family. When asked about how his son took the news, Armstrong said, “He has been remarkably calm and mature about it. I told him ‘if anyone says anything to you,

do not defend me, just say ‘Hey, my dad says he is sorry.’ He said ‘I love you, you’re my dad this won’t change that.’” He also commented on his mother, “She is a wreck and she is not the type of person that would call me and say ‘Lance, I’m a wreck’ but my stepfather called and told me she was having a hard time. I said she is a tough lady and has gotten through every other tough moment. Then we were FaceTiming with my kids and I saw my mom and she was a wreck. It took seeing her to really realise that this has taken a toll on her life.”

At other points in the interview, Armstrong apologized for his treatment/ bullying of various persons involved with him over the years, including former masseuse Emma O’Reilly and journalist David Walsh. However, he also denied certain things, such as his threatening to kick Christian Vande Velde off the team if Vande Velde didn’t dope with the rest of them. Armstrong also denied bribing the UCI (International Cycling Union): “It was not in exchange for help. They called and said they didn’t have a lot of money. I did. They asked if I would make a donation, so I did.”

But was Armstrong really and truly being completely honest about everything? After all, this is the same man who has stared point blank into thousands of cameras over the years and stated unflinchingly that he had never doped. For whatever reason, was he still



Oprah Winfrey interviewing Lance Armstrong | Photo courtesy of George Burns/Harpo Studios, Inc.

just playing with us when he brushed aside accusations of threatening Vande Velde? Was he actually clean when he made his comeback and finished third? Did he really stop taking performance enhancing drugs in 2005? One can’t help but wonder if he just decided to cut his losses, admit what everyone already knew, and then try and salvage a sliver of sunshine from his comeback.

Following on that line of thinking, it’s not even clear if he’s sorry for what happened.

When Winfrey continued down a line of questioning about whether Armstrong believed it possible to win the Tour de France without doping, he answered, “Not in that generation, and I’m not here to talk about others in that generation. It’s been well-documented. I didn’t invent the culture, but I didn’t try to stop the culture, and that’s my mistake, and that’s what I have to be sorry for, and that’s what something and the sport is now paying the price because

of that. So I am sorry for that. I didn’t have access to anything else that nobody else did.” It just seemed like he was never giving a full apology. It’s like when a little kid gets in trouble and apologizes, but then pipes up with, “But everyone else was doing it!”

Lance Armstrong may have answered the most pressing question about him, but as to the validity of the rest of the interview, it would be wise to take it with a grain of salt.

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Rising up down under

Milos Raonic not among the elites... yet

By Elliot Chan,
Contributor

After a shaky first round in Melbourne, Canada's golden boy of tennis, Milos Raonic, defeated Czech Republic's Lukas Rosol in straight sets advancing him to the third round in the Australian Open. Overcoming the scorching 40 degree Celsius heat, Raonic rallied through a first set tiebreak and then cruising to a 7-6 (7-2), 6-2, 6-3 victory. Although he is a win away from matching his best grand slam performance, should he succeed he would end up facing Roger Federer in the fourth round.

"It was a little tough," said Raonic, addressing the heat and not about the prospect of facing Federer, "you found yourself getting light-headed. Other than that it didn't seem that hot. The sun was covered by clouds. But the air was thick, it was hard to catch your breath."

It might help Raonic breathe a bit easier knowing that he defeated Rosol, who got most of his fame from ousting Rafael Nadal at Wimbledon last June. But with Nadal's absence from the tournament, there really

isn't a point comparing him to Federer, Novak Djokovic, or Andy Murray. After all, they are the top dogs; the finals without the presence of two of them will be a surprise. But the idea of an upset might not be too far-fetched.

We can all agree that Federer is not the player he once was or that competition had stiffened against him. Either way, with pink shoelaces, the Swiss second seeder defeated Russian Nikolay Davydenko as the sunset in Melbourne last Thursday. After a 6-3 6-4 6-4 win, Federer heads into third round preparing to face home country favourite Bernard Tomic. Tomic had risen rapidly up the ATP standings. At 18 years old, the 71 seed Australian is the youngest player to reach the top 100.

For now, Raonic cannot worry about Federer. He has to focus on Saturday, when he takes on German, Philipp Kohlschreiber. But for fans, all eyes are towards the horizon, wondering what lies in store for Canadian tennis. It is hard to think about tennis in January, but the sport has been gaining popularity for years. With so many alternatives to hockey during the summer, it seems the powder keg is going to blow. With advancing victories from Milos Raonic, he might just be the one to light the fuse.



Milos Raonic | Photo courtesy of Kazuhiro Nogi/AFP/GettyImages

Royals Roundup

By Josh Martin,
Sports Editor

The Douglas College men's volleyball team had a very successful weekend defeating the CBC Bearcats in back-to-back matches last Friday and Saturday at 3-0 apiece. Those two wins further secured their

team lost both of their matches this past weekend against the Bearcats by a score of 3-1. They are currently in fifth place in the standings with a 5-13 record and 10 points in 18 matches. They will be facing the Avalanche this Friday at 6 p.m. and Saturday at 1 p.m.

Last Friday the men's basketball team finished with

10 points in 13 games. They face the Quest Kermodes this Friday at 8 p.m. and the Capilano Blues on Saturday at 8 p.m.

The women's basketball team continued to dominate this past weekend with a pair of wins over the Bearcats on Friday, 54-44, and the Eagles on Saturday, 47-36. With those two wins the Royals increased their

“*The women's basketball team continued to dominate this past weekend with a pair of wins*”

number one overall record in the PacWest standings at 17-1 in 18 matches and 34 points. They will face the COTR Avalanche on Friday at 8 p.m. and on Saturday at 3 p.m. Both matches are away games.

The women's volleyball

the short end of the stick in a 70-67 loss to the CBC Bearcats. However the next day the Royals blew the Kwantlen Eagles out of the water with a huge 81-56 win. This week they stand in fifth place in the standings with a 5-8 record and

record to 10-3 and 20 points in 13 games for second place in the standings, chasing the first place Capilano Blues who are ahead by two points. The Royals face the Kermodes this Friday at 6 p.m. and the Blues on Saturday at 6 p.m. All of the games are away.



Royals' Aminda Francis | Photo courtesy of Jerald Walliser/www.douglife.ca



Ottawa Senators team captain Daniel Alfredsson acknowledges two young fans | Photo courtesy of Fred Chartrand/AP

Sorry seems to be the hardest word

NHL teams try to lure fans back

By Eric Wilkins,
Staff Writer

The boys are back in town. Yes, with the NHL lockout officially over, hockey is back on the sports fan's menu. Being in Canada, and one of the craziest hockey cities in the country, there was never any doubt in my mind that a good number of fans would blindly come running back to their teams like lemmings. It's kind of like those horrible relationships you hear about every once in a while. A hot girl treats someone like dirt, dumps him, teases him for the longest time, and then decides to get back together. And oh, how fans have caved. Cleanup on aisle four, self-respect leaking everywhere.

Granted, this isn't quite how it's gone for every team in the league. Some franchises had trouble getting fans out before the lockout, so the current situation is even worse for

many of them. Just take a look at Columbus. To help rectify the situation, small efforts have been made by clubs to show that they do care about their fans. Florida has perhaps made the greatest effort to reach out to fans by offering season tickets, a jersey, and free parking for \$168. The jersey alone is about \$130 retail, so it's a pretty killer deal. Though I didn't even realize Florida had a team...

What good does \$1 concession items do for me? Even if I wanted to, I can't wander in off the street to pick up some cheap eats because I haven't dished out a ridiculous amount to watch the game. None of these apologies are directed to the average fan; they're only directed towards the ones with money. And for that matter, how many teams have actually apologized? While

games, and discounting all merchandise by 50 per cent at all team store locations for the first three games. The first home game was also made to be a "jersey off our backs" event, allowing lucky fans to take home a game-worn jersey. Last, but not least, there was a video released, entitled "Something Was Missing." We can dismiss most of this make peace offering without much more discussion.

Vancouver and culminating in some clips of Canucks fans going crazy, did absolutely nothing for me. I will admit that allowing fans to watch practices and scrimmages for free was a nice touch since it allowed the real fans, not just the suits who can drop 10k+ on season tickets, to see their heroes on the ice. But let's face it: that cost the club virtually nothing. In addition to this, it has to be noted that the Canucks are one of the teams that hasn't come out and actually said sorry. No newspaper ad. No press conference. Not even a Tweet. Type in "sorry" or "apology" on the team's official website and you get nada.

And really, why should they? This is Vancouver. Over 15,000 fans beat down the doors of Rogers Arena simply to watch a scrimmage. The 'nucks could just go about their normal business without even acknowledging there was a lockout, and fans would still come racing back. The Canucks are the only hot girl in town. And they know it.

In general, NHL teams are just discounting everything for the first few games, whether it be merchandise, concessions, tickets, or everything. But who cares?

In general, NHL teams are just discounting everything for the first few games, whether it be merchandise, concessions, tickets, or everything. But who cares?

For the most part, the discounts only apply to the actual games. Therefore, the only people the teams are apologizing to are the ticket holders. The people who were going to come back *anyway*.

Gary Bettman took out full-page ads in newspapers across Canada and the United States to say sorry for the lockout, a good number of teams haven't actually admitted blame.

Let's take a look at our own Vancouver Canucks. The team tried to make peace with fans by opening Rogers Arena to fans throughout last week, making all concession items \$1 for the first three home

Already touched on concession discounts. Merchandise discounts don't apply to out-of-town fans who can't make it in to a team store. "Jersey off our backs" is just bringing "fan appreciation night" to the start of the season instead of the end.

And the video is quite possibly the worst piece of drivel I've seen in some time. A piece of ridiculously average "poetry" set to scenes of

The must-haves in your 2013 fantasy team hockey pool

By Elliot Chan,
Contributor

The first week of the NHL season is underway, and that means our fantasy teams are gearing to go. After listening to the experts and analyzing the rosters, we step back and await the results.

For those who chose the Penguin's captain, Sidney Crosby, this year in the first round—I'll say congratulations. But I'm going with Steven Stamkos of the Tampa Bay Lightning as my top centre. After all, the 22-year-old was the first player to score 60 goals in a season since Alexander Ovechkin did in 2007–2008. His individual success had been overshadowed by his team's failure, but playing alongside Martin St. Louis and Ryan Malone will always guarantee production from the

young sniper.

Now, I might not have selected Crosby, but I did pick up his Russian counter-part and last year's Hart Trophy winner, Evgeni Malkin. With the absence of the captain last season, Malkin had the best year of his career, stepping up in every aspect of the game. Finishing

points in 31 games in the KHL this season, Ovechkin would be on route to a 100-point year should the games and stats be combined. That would make it his first triple digit season since 2009–2010. He is still a phenomenal player and I wouldn't be surprised if he elevates his performance

with a seven-year contract and a Norris trophy, expectations are higher.

I could have chosen Shea Weber or Zdeno Chara as my second top line defenseman, but instead I went back to the Penguins and selected Kris Letang. Often flying under the radar on the team, Letang

Schneider. Regardless of Roberto Luongo's situation, pressure is high for Schneider. Fortunately his first year as a starter is in a shortened season. With a total of 68 games in the NHL, the season will still have a familiar backup feel for Schneider.

As for some dark horses, on offense I chose Pittsburgh's Pascal Dupuis, Buffalo's Cody Hodgson, and Edmonton's Magnus Paajarvi. On defense I picked up, Detroit's Kyle Quincey and Tampa Bay's Victor Hedman. As for my backup goalie I went with Michal Neuvirth of the Washington Capitals.

That is my team for this year. I'm sure by February I'll be regretting most of my picks. But until then, best of luck and hockey pool responsibly.

“ Although his stock has decreased immensely this year, Ovechkin is still a great pick, and cheaper than ever.

with 109 points, the most in the league, the man teammates and fans refer to as “Geno” will make a big impact, regardless of Crosby's condition.

Although his stock has decreased immensely this year, Ovechkin is still a great pick, and cheaper than ever. With 40

this year to prove he is still in the same class as Malkin and Crosby.

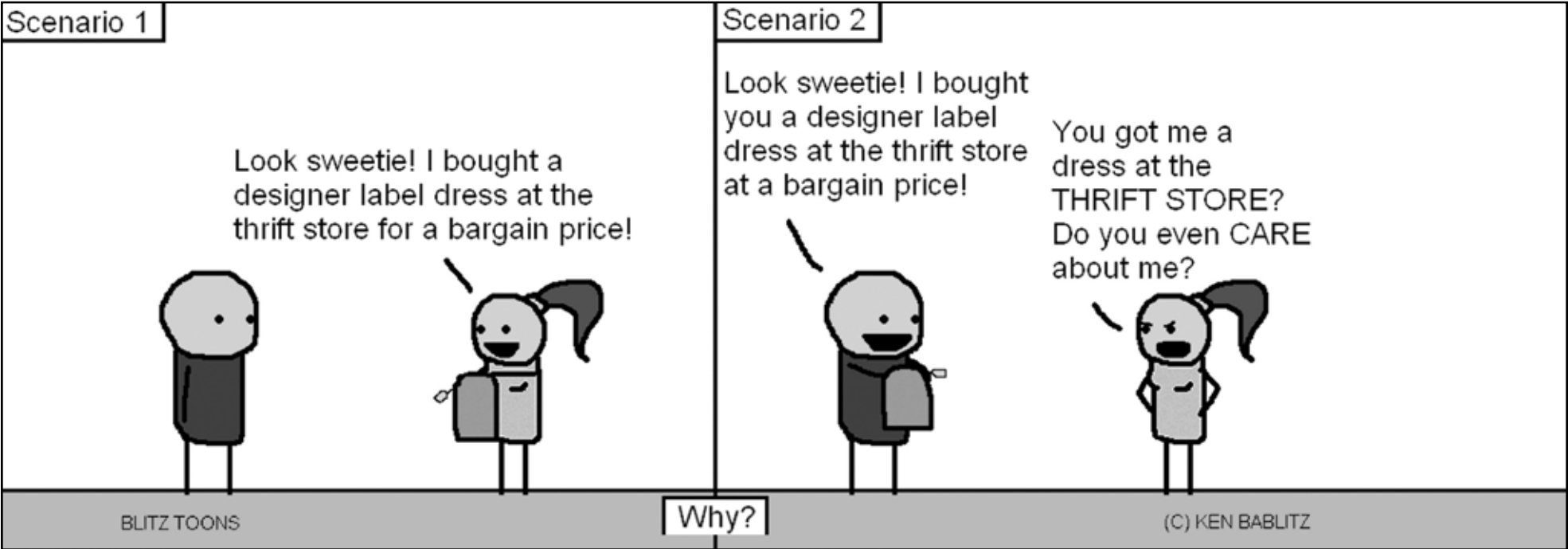
On defense there was no hesitation, I took Erik Karlsson from the Ottawa Senators. With 78 points in 2011–2012, nobody expects the 22 year-old Swede to replicate the dream season. But

is one of the leagues most consistent D-men. With a plus/minus rating of +26 in six NHL seasons, Letang is reliable in all big game situations, including shootouts.

Finally, my number one goalie will be none other than Vancouver Canucks' Cory



Alexander Ovechkin, Erik Karlsson, Shea Weber, and Cory Schneider | Photo illustration by Joel McCarthy



Fauxrosopes

Capricorn
(12/22-1/19)
Despite what the Mayan-predicted doomsday that was supposed to hit last month, a new year has arrived. I'm just glad that there was no major destruction, save for that huge boulder dropped in Times Square. I had absolutely nothing to do with that.

Aquarius
(1/20-2/18)
You'll begin to notice something is different about your family members. They seem less talkative and have been acting really artificial lately. Wait a minute... they've all been replaced by mannequins! I guess they shouldn't have gone to those Boxing Day sales.

Pisces
(2/19-3/20)
You're a lone warrior. Yes, it isn't easy going day by day slicing the heads off of innocent villagers, but it's better than going outside. Besides, you can't kill people in real life. Believe me, there's a lesson to learn from doing that.

Aries
(3/21-4/19)
YOU LOVE CHEESE YOU LOVE CHEESE YOU LOVE CHEESE YOU LOVE CHEESE YOU LOVE CHEESE. Also, you'll find that the creative process can be a real bitch sometimes.

Taurus
(4/20-5/20)
You've noticed that you don't seem to be aging like everyone else. Maybe you should try to be the next Dick Clark or Edward Cullen—because being stuck as a teenager for an eternity is a gift.

Gemini
(5/21-6/21)
There have been a lot of changes in your life over the past year. For example, you

finally realized that beer bonges aren't good hangover cures. Also, you learned what it means for someone to be a true friend, but only after they final gave in and drove you home.

Cancer
(6/22-7/22)
I have some upsetting news: you've been hallucinating this newspaper the entire time. You've actually been reading a cereal box instead.

Leo
(7/23-8/22)
You're in one of those rare moods where you seem to be able to listen to everybody's problems today. However, nobody really has anything to complain about.

Virgo
(8/23-9/22)
If at first you don't succeed, try, try, again. This motto will prove useful in your quest to learn how to fly.

Libra
(9/23-10/22)
You've built up quite a character for this semester. It must've come from shoveling your elderly neighbour's driveway for all of winter break. It's too bad that your character isn't good at school work.

Scorpio
(10/23-11/21)
Now would be a good time to set new personal goals. For example, you can try to build the seven wonders of the world out of toothpaste.

Sagittarius
(11/22-12/21)
Start your day unusually today. Try to put your shoes on before your pants. I'm sure that'll be a fun challenge.

With files from Livia Turnbull

You Tube Comedy Classics

Leo and Satan: Sugar Trip

By Joel McCarthy, Graphics Manager

Before YouTube was overrun by cat videos, it was a platform for comedy. So let's remember the classics.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=puy52LVqG7c>

I don't know whether to find the video cute or terrifying, but once you get past the cheesy voices, this series will have you falling in love. The web series is about the adventures of a young orphan named Leo and his charming (although sometimes terrifying) best friend, Satan. As of now there are six episodes so if you're looking for a way to kill just over half an hour, look no further.

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Photo illustration by Joel McCarthy

Obama rolls out controversial new firearm law

Teenage girls, Hello Kitty manufacturers highly supportive

By Aidan Mouellic, Contributor

In response to the rising number of gun-related incidents in the United States, president Barack Obama has signed a new law to prevent the proliferation of firearms. However, the laws that critics feared Obama would be implementing, such as a ban on assault weapons, were surprisingly not been implemented.

Only one new law was passed this week, though it

proved to be a significant one: the new weapon appearance regulation states that starting next week, all firearms sold must be covered at least 95 per cent in hot pink colouring and have a minimum of five Hello Kitty or Sailor Moon images visible on the weapon.

have 90 days to surrender their current firearms to their local 'Pink Palace,' government-run facilities that will retrofit all currently owned firearms to abide by the new appearance regulation.

"Assault rifles and similar firearms are popular with users

law. "Having guns look more like Barbie doll accessories than killing machines will make people think twice about using them or rushing out to purchase them."

The NRA has yet to release a statement over the new gun laws.

47 pink and put Hello Pussy stickers on it! I cannot be seen at the range looking all girly."

In order to address the public's growing concerns over the "threat" to male masculinity, *The Other Press* spoke to forensic psychologist Liz Melon. "The law will undoubtedly have an impact gun usage, especially among insecure males who use guns to make themselves seem more frightening or cool than they really are."

It appears the law is already having an impact, considering that within minutes of the President's announcement, Justin Bieber tweeted "Man this blows! I don't want any pink girly guns in my next music video! I'm moving back to Canada!"

"The new weapon appearance regulation states that starting next week, all firearms sold must be covered at least 95 per cent in hot pink colouring and have a minimum of five Hello Kitty or Sailor Moon images visible on the weapon."

The new law has National Rifle Association (NRA) members and the gun enthusiast community in an uproar.

All current firearm owners

because they make the user look cool and tough, similar to our armed forces," Obama took the time to explain the reasoning behind the controversial new

When contacted by phone, a Dallas, Texas gun enthusiast was less than thrilled. "There is no way in hell I will let Barrack Hussein Obama paint my AK-



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